

**NOTAS DE LA CONFERENCIA A ALTO NIVEL SOBRE LA PRIMERA LEY
EUROPEA SOBRE EL CLIMA
CELEBRADA EN BRUSELAS EL 28 DE ENERO DE 2020**



AGENDA

El desarrollo de la Conferencia ha sido registrado y se puede ver en: [enlace](#)

09:00 - 09:30 Opening speech: Frans Timmermans, Executive Vice-President European Commission
Session 1 - Becoming the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050: benefits from the green transition

09:30 - 09:45 Introductory speech: Gordan Grlić-Radman, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia

09:45 - 11:00 Moderator: Mauro Petriccione, Director General Climate Action European Commission
Panellists:

- **Marco Mensink, Director General, European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic)**
- **Pascal Canfin, Chair of ENVI Committee, European Parliament**
- **Wendel Trio, Director, Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe**
- **Alexander Canal, Secretary General, Generation Climate Europe**
- **Walburga Hemetsberger, CEO, SolarPower Europe**

Discussion by the Panellists and Q&A with the public.

Session 2 - Contribution of all policies to climate neutrality and a just and socially fair transition

11:30 - 11:45 Introductory speech: Michal Kurtyka, Minister of Climate of Poland

11:45 - 13:00 Moderator: Céline Gauer, Deputy Secretary-General, European Commission
Panellists:

- **William Todts, Executive Director, Transport & Environment (T&E)**
- **Eric-Mark Huitema, Director General, European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA)**
- **Pekka Pesonen, Secretary General, Copa Cogeca**
- **Monica Frassoni, President, European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE)**
- **Ed Daniels, Executive Vice President Strategy and Portfolio, Shell**
- **Luca Visentini, Secretary General, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)**
- **Cecilia Bonefeld-Dahl, Director General, DigitalEurope**

Discussion by the Panellists and Q&A with the public

Session 3 - Financing the transition and triggering investment

14:30 - 14:45 Introductory speech: Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice-President, European Commission

14:45 - 16:15 Moderator: Marco Buti, Head of Cabinet to Commissioner Gentiloni, European Commission

Panellists:

- **Ester Asin, Director, WWF European Policy Office**
- **Emma Navarro, Vice-President, European Investment Bank (EIB)**
- **Luiz Awazu Pereira da Silva, Deputy General Manager, Bank for International Settlements (BIS)**
- **Guntram Wolf, Director, Bruegel**
- **Pierre Wunsch, Governor, National Bank of Belgium**

Discussion by the Panellists and Q&A with the public

16:15 - 16:45 Closing speech: Frans Timmermans, Executive Vice-President, European Commission

I. CONSIDERACIONES GENERALES

La Comisión europea se comprometió a presentar antes de los 100 primeros días de su mandato una **LEY EUROPEA SOBRE EL CLIMA**

En el marco de la política de “Legislar mejor” la Comisión abrió el 9 de enero la primera fase de la “consulta pública” mediante una “Road map”, en la que los interesados (stakeholders) pueden aportar sus observaciones en formato libre. Las observaciones enviadas serán visibles para todos en la página de la consulta¹ (Ver anexo 2 y pie de página). El plazo para las observaciones se cierra el 6 de febrero de 2020. La Comisión someterá posteriormente a “consulta pública” la proposición de Ley, en el formato habitual de respuestas a determinadas preguntas.

La Conferencia del 28 de enero objeto de esta nota es un “hearing” público que facilita la participación y que ha podido verse en “webstreaming”.

II. ESTRUCTURA DE LA CONFERENCIA

La Conferencia se organizó en tres sesiones:

1. **EUROPA COMO EL PRIMER CONTINENTE DEL MUNDO EN SER CLIMÁTICAMENTE NEUTRO EN 2050. BENEFICIOS DE LA TRANSICIÓN VERDE**
2. **CONTRIBUCIÓN DE TODAS LAS POLÍTICAS A LA NEUTRALIDAD CLIMÁTICA Y A LA TRANSICIÓN JUSTA Y LEAL DESDE EL PUNTO DE VISTA SOCIAL**
3. **FINANCIACIÓN DE LA TRANSICIÓN Y MOVILIZACIÓN DE INVERSIONES**

Cada sesión se inició con un “opening remark” de alto contenido político, bien por representantes de la Comisión o del Consejo, y seguida por presentaciones de panelistas representando a ONGs, la industria, los sindicatos y el mundo financiero.

La Conferencia fue abierta y clausurada por el vicepresidente de la Comisión europea, Frans Timmermans, con sendos discursos que por su importancia se incluyen en el Anexo I.

Todos los panelistas expresaron su apoyo tanto al proceso de transición hacia una economía más sostenible y descarbonizada como al “**European Green Deal**” y a la necesidad de una Ley que de seguridad y comprometa a todos los implicados.

No obstante, existe una diferencia en la postura de los que “dicen lo que hay que hacer” y los que “tienen que hacerlo”, es decir la industria.

La participación del Banco Europeo de Inversiones (BEI), representada por la vicepresidenta Emma Navarro, ha sido muy importante para tratar del importantísimo tema de la financiación.

III. SOBRE EL CONTENIDO DE LA LEY EUROPEA SOBRE EL CLIMA

El planteamiento de la Ley fue objeto de una discusión muy interesante. Se consideraron 2 opciones, bien una Ley sencilla que trate temas horizontales y cuyo fin principal sea comprometer y dar seguridad jurídica a todos los implicados (Frans Timmermans alude a disciplinar a todo el mundo), o bien una Ley del tipo “árbol de navidad” que se vaya ramificando estableciendo objetivos para los distintos sectores.

La toma de posición del europarlamentario y presidente de la Comisión ENVI, MEP Pascal Canfin es muy importante. Propone una Ley sencilla y de objetivos horizontales, sin entrar en temas sectoriales. Emplazó en términos contundentes a la Comisión a presentar un proyecto de Ley a principios de junio de 2020,

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2020-119545_es

acompañada del Análisis de impacto socio-económico y medioambiental. El respeto de esta fecha es que la Ley esté aprobada (¿) para la COP 26 que se celebrará en Glasgow los 9 al 19 de noviembre de 2020. Un tema propuesto por varios intervinientes es la definición de “neutralidad climática”. El MEP Pascal Canfin propone en concreto que le Ley contenga lo siguiente:

- ✓ Definición de Neutralidad climática
- ✓ Objetivos para 2030
- ✓ Un pilar en MITIGACIÓN y un pilar en ADAPTACIÓN

El MEP remarca también que no se trata solo de “climate strategy”, sino de “economic strategy” y aplica el término “consistency” para definir una de las identidades que ha de tener la Ley. El ministro polaco del clima, Michal Kurtyka, remarca a su vez el término “credibility”.

La **INDUSTRIA**, a la que se le exigirá un gran esfuerzo de descarbonización estuvo representada por **Marco Mensink**, Director General, *European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic)*, **Eric-Mark Huitema**, Director General, *European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA)*, por **Ed Daniels**, Executive Vice President Strategy and Portfolio, *Shell*, por, por **Cecilia Bonefeld-Dahl**, Director General, *DigitalEurope*. También participaron asociaciones que promocionan su sector y que solicitan más acción, tales como **Monica Frassoni**, President, *European Alliance to Save Energy (EU-ASE)* y **Walburga Hemetsberger**, CEO, *SolarPower Europe*.

El Director General de Cefic señaló tres sectores muy importantes para Europa, como son el del acero, química y cemento. Considera que no es correcto que se haya planteado la transición energética fijando como punto de partida un objetivo muy ambicioso para una fecha precisa. Los procesos industriales de descarbonización requieren “hojas de ruta” que necesitan tiempo y que presentan riesgos. En muchos procesos son necesarias instalaciones FOTK (First Of The Kind) que pueden ocupar varios años y que no son rentables para el inversor. Es importante que los equipos se manufacturen en Europa, pues equipos como el PV chino no crea empleo en Europa.

La industria solicita también una **POLÍTICA INDUSTRIAL**, sobre lo que también incide la Federación de sindicatos europeos. En cierta medida acusa a la Comisión europea de desequilibrio entre los medios que destina a la política climática y los que destina a la política industrial. Solicitan tasas medioambientales en la frontera a los productos importados de países no respetuosos de los objetivos del clima. Se preguntan cuáles van a ser los beneficios para la industria. Reclaman también inversiones públicas en infraestructuras, en particular en redes (por ejemplo, de hidrógeno).

El Director General del *European Automobile Manufacturers Association (ACEA)* anuncia que el viernes 31 de enero van a presentar al vicepresidente Timmermans su plan de 10 puntos para la “transición “de la industria automovilística. En un tono de broma dice que los vehículos del futuro van a emitir menos CO2 que sus ocupantes. Solicita que la Comisión acompañe sus propuestas con muy buenos análisis de impacto (Impact assessment).

Finalmente, Shell solicita que se aborde la descarbonización “sector por sector” y que se establezca un marco regulatorio predecible.

Todos los panelistas coinciden en el papel primordial de la tecnología y de la necesidad de una regulación estable que de seguridad a los inversores.

La intervención de **Luca Visentini**, Secretary General, *European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)* fue muy interesante y positiva. Los sindicatos europeos acogen con entusiasmo el Green Deal. Solicitan sin embargo salarios dignos para los trabajadores, puesto que tendrán que soportar los costes adicionales que como consumidores han de aportar a la descarbonización. Si no es así, existe el riesgo de que los

trabajadores no puedan participar en el proceso, al que por otra parte considera como una extraordinaria oportunidad.

Con relación al **Fondo de Transición justa**, los sindicatos europeos consideran que los objetivos deben establecerse por sectores y en una dimensión local más que al nivel de Estados. Deben implicarse todos los sectores y no es solo una cuestión del dinero disponible para acompañar la transición. Se requiere que vayan juntas la estrategia climática y la industrial.

IV. FINANCIACIÓN DE LA TRANSICIÓN Y MOVILIZACIÓN DE INVERSIONES

La tercera sesión se dedicó al tema muy importante de la financiación.

Algunas intervenciones fueron testimoniales y la más importante ha sido la de la señora **Emma Navarro, Vice-President, European Investment Bank (EIB)**.

Una de las afirmaciones más importantes es la de que hay suficiente liquidez en el mercado y que lo que se requieren son buenos proyectos.

La vicepresidenta del BEI utilizó también el término de **“sustainable revolution”**.

Una de las funciones del BEI es la de orientar a los inversores y para ello ha creado servicios de Asistencia técnica y de asesoramiento. En particular el “Investors hub” del “European sustainable investment Plan” y el “Project Development Assistance, PDA”.

En la reunión del Consejo de dirección del BEI de noviembre de 2019 se adoptaron las decisiones siguientes:

- ✓ Aumentar la tasa de intervención del BEI en proyectos relativos al clima hasta el 50% de su portfolio, sin que por ello se resienta el 50% restante en otros sectores.
- ✓ Movilizar 1 billón de euros (un millón de millones de euros) en la década 2020-2030
- ✓ Nueva política de préstamos en el sector de la energía, suprimiendo intervenciones en el sector de los combustibles fósiles y apoyando la transición justa

La VP del BEI hace referencia el papel de las instituciones financieras que pueden actuar de intermediarias en la gestión de préstamos globales. Señala también dos temas importantes:

- ✓ El clima tiene un coste
- ✓ Los beneficios se verán en el largo plazo
- ✓ Hay que gestionar la incertidumbre

El Gobernador del Nacional *Bank of Belgium*, **Pierre Wunsch**, considera que una parte importante de la solución es una correcta regulación. En el dilema entre préstamos, dinero barato y dinero gratis (free Money), considera que no todo es cuestión de dinero barato.

ANEXO I

Discursos de apertura y cierre de la Conferencia por el Vicepresidente de la Comisión europea, Frans Timmermans (puede verse el video en <https://webcast.ec.europa.eu/high-level-public-conference-on-the-climate-law>)

ANEXO II

Participación pública. Invitación a presentar contribuciones a la “hoja de ruta” que abre la Comisión europea para la participación del público en los procesos legislativos de la Unión europea

ANEXO I

Remarks by Executive Vice President **Timmermans**, in charge of the European Green Deal, at the Conference on the first European Climate Law, in Brussels

Opening remarks

Good morning everyone and welcome to what I hope is going to be an exciting day. I am certainly looking forward to hearing the conclusions this afternoon because we can certainly use all the help we can get and if this is to be a success, it can only happen if it is inclusive if we are all part of it and if we can agree on the track to follow.

We promised to do a lot in the first 100 days of this Commission and part of that will be the introduction of the European climate law, so that we can enshrine into law our objective to become climate neutral by 2050. You have seen the presentation of the Green Deal Communication, you have probably also followed the Green Deal Investment Plan and the Just Transition Mechanism, which we introduced a couple of weeks ago. As you can see we are not wasting any time, and by the way, a big thank you to everyone in the services of the Commission who has contributed to this, we are putting people under tremendous pressure but we will make sure that what we deliver continues to be of high quality, and I have to thank my colleagues for that.

Today, we are here to listen to you, to hear your views on the next step for the European Green Deal, which is the climate law. It has to be ‘your’ Green Deal, it has to be ‘our’ Green Deal, so consultation and debate will be, and remain, not just today, essential.

Let me just remind us of why this is so important: I think that the scientific evidence is clearer day by day how quickly and disastrous the consequences of unrestrained climate change are affecting us. We are increasingly seeing warnings of risks turning into haunting manifestation of disaster across the globe. Just look at Australia, wildfires have killed approximately one billion animals, one billion! Double the population of the European Union. I want to make clear that this is not me conducting project fear; I am just reporting what is actually happening. It is urgent, it is essential; it is undeniable that we need to take action. The risks will only increase, as the earth gets hotter and the climate gets more disturbed.

Climate is changing. We are in a crisis. We saw a record number of cyclones in the Indian ocean last year, the wettest twelve months on record in the United States, the planet's hottest August on record and it is happening close to our home. Last year temperature records were broken in European countries from Spain to Slovakia, with France recording its highest ever temperature of 45.9°C. In Southern Germany the June heat wave hit just after storms with heavy rain and flooded streets and cellars and forced the Munich airport to suspend its operation temporarily. Everyone in Spain is now very familiar with the phenomenon of Gotta Fría, which used to happen on an average of once every 50 years and now seems to happen almost every year and even more than once. In November nine people died as storms swept parts of France, Greece and Italy with flush floods, landslides and the collapse of an overpass.

I can go on and on with this. I do think it is good to remind ourselves of this but without giving in to paralysis because it's happening and we can't stop it, we can do something about it and this is the most important thing.

The question is, what can we do? As institutions, as individuals, as politicians, as business people, as scientists. What can we do? When I do interviews very often, I am very often confronted with a dilemma: “So what is

your choice? Do you choose to do something for the climate or do you choose jobs? Do you have any idea what this cost?” And I think it is our duty collectively to explain that choosing to do something against the climate crisis is choosing for jobs, for future jobs. Saying that choosing to invest in this is much smarter than not choosing to invest and spending more money not on investment but on mitigating and on addressing the challenges, which is money that will be spent but which does not bring any revenues, that is not an investment. I think, in our public communication we will have to concentrate on that: to detect the false contradictions and to help people understand that doing nothing does not mean that everything stays the same. That is the biggest trap in public communication: Believing that by doing nothing everything will stay the same. By doing nothing, the problem will get much worse but on the other side by acting we can actually tackle the problem.

This is in my view today the biggest challenge: it is increasingly no longer needed to fight climate deniers. I think climate deniers themselves by now have understood that they are on the wrong track and that they are not very convincing. I have already seen the first climate deniers moving to climate desperation, saying “Why? Let it be, it is too late. Let's live it out for a couple of years, let's see what happens”. We saw some of this also last week in Davos. Especially one speech of somebody who is 72 years old and is a billionaire. The issue is that in the first generation, it is not going to have severe consequences before the end of their natural lives, if they have a lot of money they can move to places where they will be less affected by the consequences. But as a dad of two millennials, and two children that are part of generation Z, we are thinking of these generations and we are thinking ahead and they are saying: We need to act because you are playing with our future.

I will not be cornered by people who say: “because you point to the urgency you are a pessimist and you are all doom and gloom; you should be optimistic”. No, I think there is no optimism in denying it, there is no optimism in saying, “we will all be ok” by doing nothing. People are too smart to buy that. It is like a way of numbing your senses, but it is just like with alcohol: sooner or later you wake up and you have a terrible headache and you have to confront reality. You can't drown your problems in alcohol. And you can't drown these problems by denying them. They will come back even stronger.

In this context, what do we need to do? There is so much we need to do and there will be ample opportunities to talk about everything we need to do but my fundamental point is: we can do this! We have the science, we have the technology, we can certainly find the money. The Commission is talking about a sum between 260 and 300 billion Euros yearly to invest in this, to make this transition happen. It sounds daunting but I was in Davos last week and I hear what people are talking about, the size of investments they are thinking about anyway and even if you just look at the size of investment that is still being done in fossil fuels. If you reorient that or at least part of it into this direction, we can find the money.

I repeat: the technology, the science, the money is not the problem, so why is it difficult? I think the essential issue is one of governance. How do you organize this? Like in any transition, especially a transition that is dual or even triple for Europe. We have the transition because of the climate crisis. Mother earth is telling us “I can't go on like this and I will let you feel it if you go on like this”. We have an industrial revolution that is the first in human history that affects every being on this planet. This never happened before. And as Europeans we also have a demographic challenge combined with the two other challenges that changes Europe's position in the world. When my parents were born, Europe accounted for 23-24% of the world's population, Africa 5%; in a couple of years' times it will be exactly the opposite. That has huge geopolitical consequences for us and for everyone. These three challenges combined; will dictate the policy choices we make. I believe that this is like any other tectonic transformation humanity has gone through. It's a challenge to everyone and to every institution. If we deny as political and public institution, that we will have to adapt to this or become obsolete, we will help political forces across Europe and in the world, who thrive on creating this feeling ‘we are anti-establishment’.

This is something we need to do, and we need to do it well. And if our premise is, and that is the premise I want to work on, we want to leave no one behind, we need to organize it at all levels. Again, I repeat, doing nothing does not mean nothing will happen. The industrial revolution will happen. Mother earth will continue

to tell us it is enough. If we do nothing, we are no longer in control of either development. But if we act and get together, we can bring some control into this.

Why is the climate law so important? The climate law, in my view, in simple words is important because it will discipline everyone in this process, especially on the political side, to take the necessary steps, to deliver on this promise to become climate neutral by 2050. And it will give the institutions that need to coordinate this also the legal possibility to act when those who made promises don't deliver on the promises. So, it is an exercise in discipline in this transformational age.

I say this as a historian with a keen interest in studying earlier times of fundamental transformation, whether it is the introduction of coal as a basis of the economy, when we went from horses to steam engines and then went from steam engines to combustion engines, now we are going from combustion engines to other forms of energy. Transforming a society that is entirely based on carbon, to a society that no longer needs carbon as a basis for its functioning, is of a tectonic nature. This happens at a time when digitalization is revolutionizing all sorts of structures. If we do not understand that this is not just an economic change, this is not just a change in how we produce and live, this will affect every single institution upon which society is based and that helps society function as it does. And if we do not understand that we have a collective responsibility in preparing all these institutions, to handle this and to leave no one behind and to take everyone on board, then we understand how epic this challenge is. And then we also understand that disciplining ourselves along this path to 2030, 2040, 2050, through a climate law, is essential to make sure we deliver on this and to make sure we can correct whenever necessary.

Now, over to you, what do we put into a climate law? To what extent do we want to be prescriptive? How far will it go? Who are the subjects of the climate law, who can be held accountable under the climate law? These are all fundamental questions where I hope you can give us some guidance how we can best address this.

Again, as a dad of millennials and generation Z kids, I understand this is an epic challenge but it is also an incredible opportunity for Europe to lead. If we get this right, I can assure you that worldwide there will be huge interests in studying our idea for a climate law. I get questions about this from all parts of the world: 'How are you going to do this?', 'we'd like to see this', 'we'd like to be part of this'. I think this gives Europe a unique opportunity to lead in the world. It gives, again speaking as a dad, new generations an ideal. Generation Z are no longer based on an ideological vision of the world but are filled with ideas for the future of the world, it gives them an idea to work on.

A climate neutral EU in 2050 is an idea people love to embrace. But people will be horribly disappointed if we do not start soon delivering concrete actions. And in that context, I hope the climate law can be extremely useful, and I hope we do a good job at the Commission to draft a climate law that answers your requirements, that answers your hopes and that answers your expectations of the years to come.

Thank you, very much and good luck, today.

Closing remarks

In closing I would like to give you some of the thoughts I have collected about today and also thoughts from other meetings I have had on the Climate Law and Green Deal.

We can agree, perhaps, that our biggest challenge is to get the governance of this right. Because we seem to agree on the end goal we need to achieve. We also seem to agree globally on the measures in the different sectors that will be necessary to get us there. So, then the 'what' is no longer the real issue, it's the 'how' that is the real issue. And if we agree that the 'how' is the real issue then I believe that the way we organize

ourselves is going to be of eminent importance. If you are part of this organization, through the climate pact and other measures, I am sure we can come up with the optimal answers. The perfect answers don't exist but optimal answers perhaps we can achieve.

In this context I honestly believe the climate law will play a crucial role. The core issue is this: can the climate law contribute to giving us enough guidance, enough security to follow that path, and at the same time offer us enough flexibility to take different bifurcations or roads when external factors will show that perhaps we have made the wrong choice so we have to put more emphasis here... this development takes care of itself... this development needs more support.

The crucial contribution the climate law can make is to offer long-term predictability and security. That parties who will have to decide whether we achieve this, commit to something and are willing to say 'I commit to this and if I deviate, I am willing to be corrected'. I think this is one of the most important things, that especially investors need. Because the investors I have met so far, all of them say: 'give us a good project, give us an idea'. It's not the fact that they don't have money they just don't want to take more risk that what is sellable to their constituents, which is logical. I honestly believe that the climate law can give that extra bit of security that some investors need to make this jump into the future.

This jump into the future is a challenge for all of us. If I talk to leaders of European industry, they know what to do but they struggle with how to do it. They know the transition needs to happen, they know that the end goal will be positive for them but the transition itself is a challenge and there I believe the Climate Law can be of help. If we can bring together all the stakeholders and make it possible for European industry to get access to credits that are affordable and that are sustainable then I believe this transition will go ahead.

Let me end on this notion which I am discovering actually on a daily basis: Since we are in such a deep transformational process, it's part of human experience that some things will not work out the way we plan them. They will be more difficult and slower and sometimes they will not succeed; other things will go much faster than anybody had anticipated. We see this for instance now in sustainable energy generation. In combination with the Green Deal as a roadmap, and the extra security provided by things such as the Climate Law, this will put us on the right track to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 and to achieve a substantial reduction of emissions by 2030, which I hope will be in line with the expectations in the European Parliament.

Thank you so much for being here today. I count on your contribution, I count on your solidarity, you can count on mine. My team, led by Diederik Samsom is at your disposal if there are things you see that are not going well. It is nice if you tell us that things are going well, but it is better you tell us where the things are not going well so that perhaps we can have an opportunity to fix it.

This will continue to be a cooperative process, we are not just refocusing our economy, shifting it away from carbon to carbon neutral, we are also reinventing governance because it will be inclusive governance if it is to succeed and for that we need all of you.

Thank you.

ANEXO 2

https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives/ares-2020-119545_es

DATOS PROVISIONALES

Legislación europea sobre el clima: lograr la neutralidad climática para 2050

Hojas de ruta
Plazo para enviar comentarios
09.01.2020 - 06.02.2020
COMENTARIOS: ABIERTA

PRÓXIMAMENTE
Adopción por la Comisión

Acerca de esta iniciativa

Resumen
Este acto incorpora a la legislación el objetivo establecido en el pacto verde europeo de que la economía y la sociedad europeas sean climáticamente neutras de aquí a 2050.
Esto requiere que el conjunto de los Estados de la UE alcancen emisiones netas cero, principalmente a través de la reducción de las emisiones, la inversión en tecnologías verdes y la protección del entorno natural.
El acto garantizará la contribución de todas las políticas de la UE a este objetivo, así como la aportación de todos los sectores de la economía y la sociedad.

Tema Acción por el clima
Tipo de texto legislativo Datos provisionales